# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1712
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Zonal Branch of NGT
Patel Smt. Jayshreeben

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the National Green Tribunal has been set up with the objectives of environmental protection, adequate compensation for natural resources and to provide l egal solutions for environmental related queries and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has received any proposal for setting up a separate Zonal Branch of National Green Tribunal in Gujarat and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
(c ) whether the Government is considering to introduce Environmental COT (Commercial off - the shelf products) and if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)The National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 provides for the establishment of a National Green Tribunal for the effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The NGT has been vested with original, appellate and special jurisdiction by virtue of Sections 14,15 and 16 of the NGT Act.

Section 14 of NGT Act, 2010 provides that the Tribunal shall have jurisdiction over all civil cases where a substantial question relating to environment is involved and such question arises out of the implementation of the enactments specified in Schedule − I, which are:

1. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act,1974;
2. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act,1977;
3. The Forest (Conservation) Act,1980;
4. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act,1981;
5. The Environment(Protection) Act,1986;
6. The Public Liability Insurance Act,1991;
7. The Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

Under Section 15 of the NGT Act, 2010 the Tribunal is empowered to grant relief, compensation, restitution for environmental damages covered under above Acts. Further, Section 16 of the NGT Act, 2010 provides that any person aggrieved by any orders or decisions or directions or determination passed under any of the above mentioned Acts, on or after commencement of NGT Act, 2010 can invoke the appellate jurisdiction of the Tribunal by way of filling an appeal.

(b) Proposal of setting up of any Zonal Branch is considered in consultation with NGT and State Government. No such proposal is under consideration for setting up a separate Zonal Branch of NGT in Gujarat at present.

(c) There is no such proposal in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
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